

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 04412 161952Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 CPR-01
SSC-01 /022 W

-----170525Z 066362 /21

R 161917Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1630

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 04412

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PDIP, PINR, UK (SYKES, SIR RICHARD)
SUBJECT: NEW BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO THE NETHERLANDS

REF: THE HAGUE 1303

1. SYKES IS AN EXPERIENCED DIPLOMAT WHO HAS BEEN SERVING AS A DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE AT THE FCO. BORN 1920. EDUCATED AT WELLINGTON COLLEGE & CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD. MILITARY SERVICE 1940-1946; MAJOR; CROIX DE GUERRE, 1945. ENTERED FOREIGN SERVICE 1947. MARRIED ANN GEORGINA FISHER; THREE CHILDREN. KNIGHTED JAN. 1977.

2. SYKES' FOREIGN SERVICE APPOINTMENTS INCLUDE NANKING (1948-1950), PEKING (1950-1952), BRUSSELS (1956-1959), SANTIAGO (1959-1962) HAVANA (AMBASSADOR 1970-1972), AND WASHINGTON (MINISTER 1972-1975). AS AMBASSADOR TO CUBA, SYKES WAS AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF INFORMATION TO US ON INTERNAL POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS. AS MINISTER IN WASHINGTON HE DEVELOPED A WIDE RANGE OF AMERICAN CONTACTS WHICH HE HAS MAINTAINED IN HIS PRESENT ASSIGNMENT AT THE FCO. AS DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE HE HAS HELD SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITY FOR NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS, ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT, AND DEFENSE AFFAIRS. AT THE SAME TIME HE HAS HELD THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE JOINT INTELLIGENCE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 04412 161952Z

COMMITTEE. SYKES HAS A GOOD POL-MIL BACKGROUND AND SERVED AS HEAD OF THE DEFENSE POLICY SECTION OF THE FCO FROM 1968-1970.

3. SYKES COMES FROM A MILITARY BACKGROUND AND CAN BE SAID TO HAVE A MILITARY BEARING AND OUTLOOK. HE HAS BEEN FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE IN HIS DEALINGS WITH THE

EMBASSY, THOUGH BY NATURE HE IS RESERVED AND OPERATES "BY THE BOOK" IN DEALING WITH FOREIGNERS. HE DOES NOT INDULGE IN SPECULATION WHEN DISCUSSING ISSUES, AND IS NOT KNOWN AS A PARTICULARLY CANDID SOURCE OF INFORMATION. HE IS CONSIDERED INTELLIGENT, BUT NOT NOTABLY FLEXIBLE OR IMAGINATIVE.

SPIERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, AMBASSADORS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON04412
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770091-0453
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770353/aaaabtqq.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 12c609b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 THE HAGUE 1303
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3088840
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO THE NETHERLANDS
TAGS: PDIP, PINR, UK, NL, (SYKES, SIR RICHARD)
To: THE HAGUE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/12c609b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009